

## CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION





## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Throughout the planning process, the planning team gathered public input on issues, proposed actions, and alternatives. The scoping process included meetings, public workshops, Advisory Commission meetings, newsletters, and the development of a homepage. These were used to identify the issues, alternatives, and impact topics to be considered for planning and to keep the public informed and involved throughout the planning process.

### **PUBLIC NOTICES AND WORKSHOPS**

On August 31, 1995, a public notice describing the purpose of the planning effort was sent to the public, media, agencies, and other organizations on the Bureau of Land Management California Desert District's mailing list. The schedule for the first round of public meetings was included in the notice. On September 5, 1995, a notice of intent announcing the beginning of the planning process and EIS was published in the *Federal Register*.

Public workshops were held from September 21 through 27, 1995 at 10 locations throughout the planning area and in nearby areas where users live. These workshops were held in Pasadena, San Bernardino, Barstow, Baker, Needles, Ridgecrest, Independence, Lone Pine, and Furnace Creek, California, and in Las Vegas, Nevada. About 250 people attended the workshops. These workshops were used to identify issues and concerns that the team should address in preparing a management plan for the area. The team and other agency staff divided into two groups to cover the 10 locations in one week. Detailed notes taken during the workshops were summarized and placed in a notebook for the team's reference.

In late February 1997, a second notice was sent out to inform the public that there would be a second round of workshops in April. A press release was mailed to local media in and near the planning area. Some local newspapers and radio stations informed the public about the workshops. The schedule for these workshops was included in this notice and on the NEMO homepage.

Ten public workshops were held from April 14 through 24, 1997 at Las Vegas, Nevada, Needles, Furnace Creek, Bishop, Lone Pine, Barstow, Pasadena, San Bernardino, Baker, and Ridgecrest, California. Each workshop began with a 20-minute presentation about the planning effort given by NEMO team leader Dennis Schramm. After the presentation the team would set up three stations for natural resources, cultural resources, land use, and visitor experience. At these stations, the team gathered comments and alternatives and wrote them down on the flipcharts. About 330 people attended the workshops.

## **NEWSLETTERS AND HOMEPAGE**

The first newsletter in February 1996 was sent to about 6,000 names on the Bureau of Land Management mailing list for the California desert. It included a summary of planning issues identified at the public meetings and statements of purpose and significance for Death Valley National Park, Mojave National Preserve, and BLM-managed lands within the planning area.

The original mailing list was replaced with a planning project mailing list developed from agency lists and scoping participation. A second newsletter was sent to about 500 names on the NEMO planning mailing list in March 1997. It contained a planning update, the schedule of the workshops, general descriptions of conceptual alternatives, and an outline of issues for which alternatives could be developed. The newsletter was also posted on the homepage. Both newsletters included a one-page mailback for receiving comments.

In February 1997, a homepage for the three California desert planning efforts (West Mojave, Northern and Eastern Colorado, and Northern and Eastern Mojave) went online on the BLM California server. It contained detailed information about each planning effort, background information about the Mojave Desert, and the desert tortoise, pertinent legislation and maps and photographs. In April 1998 the NEMO homepage was moved to the NPS server so that the planning team would have direct access. The link to this homepage is found in Mojave National Preserve's homepage ([www.nps.gov/moja/planning/nemo.htm](http://www.nps.gov/moja/planning/nemo.htm)).

A third newsletter was sent out to the public in April 1998 to update readers on the NEMO planning effort. The newsletter explained that three separate draft environmental impact statements for each area (Mojave National Preserve, Death Valley National Park, and the BLM public lands within NEMO) would be produced instead of one comprehensive draft environmental impact statement. A revised planning schedule and comment form for receiving the documents were also provided in the newsletter.

## **AGENCY CONSULTATION**

An interagency meeting was held on August 23, 1995, to discuss the issues to be addressed in this planning effort. The meeting was attended by 43 staff from the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The California state historic preservation officer (SHPO) was formally notified by letter in April 1996 of the planning effort. A response letter offering suggestions was received from the state historic preservation officer in May 1996. A planning team member met briefly with the state historic preservation officer in June 1996 and offered a briefing on the planning effort. No date for the briefing was confirmed.

Following the public scoping workshops in April 1997, a two-day interagency meeting was held in Barstow, California to discuss the alternatives and comments heard at the workshops. Twenty-eight staff members from the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California State Parks, and San Bernardino County attended the two-day meeting. Comments were gathered on the first day and alternatives were developed on the second day.

An interagency meeting was held on April 10, 1997 to discuss listed and sensitive species in the planning area. It was decided that the team would plan for listed and sensitive species based on habitat types. A follow-up meeting was held on June 11, 1997, to continue the discussion. Habitat types were ranked according to priority, and tasks were assigned to staff members to gather information needed to map the habitats with the highest priority.

On November 12, 1997, the planning team met with preserve staff to discuss alternatives to be included in the agency review draft. The following day, the planning team met with Death Valley staff to discuss alternatives for Death Valley.

Copies of the first internal agency combined draft were provided to the Environmental Protection Agency in San Francisco. Copies of the separate draft plans for each park unit were offered for review, but the Environmental Protection Agency declined, opting instead to review and comment on the public drafts when they are released.

## **NATIVE AMERICAN CONSULTATION**

On March 7, 1996, Team Leader Dennis Schramm, Death Valley National Park Superintendent Dick Martin, and Cultural Resources Specialist Linda Greene met with representatives of the Timbisha Shoshone tribe at Death Valley. A follow up meeting with tribal leaders held at their offices in Death Valley on April 28, 1997. On April 23, 1996, Dennis Schramm and Archeologist Rolla Queen met with the Chairmen and tribal members of the Chemehuevi tribe at their reservation on the Colorado River. A follow up meeting was held with the Chemehuevi on May 19, 1997 at their office. An initial meeting with the Ft. Mohave Indian Tribe Chairperson also was held on May 19, 1997 at their offices in Needles. The purpose of these meetings was to initiate government-to-government relationships for the planning effort. The tribes were briefed on the scope and status of the planning effort and discussed issues.

## **INTERTRIBAL MEETING**

An intertribal meeting of the Fort Mohave, Timbisha Shoshone, Chemehuevi, and San Manuel tribes was held on July 11, 1997 at the Fort Mohave Reservation's Avi Hotel and Casino in the Laughlin, NV area. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Native American issues and alternatives. Invitation letters were sent to 13 tribal offices and to NPS and BLM staff. Seven representatives for the tribes and nine agency staff attended the meeting. Mr. William "Bill" Mungary (an intertribal leader) facilitated the meeting.

The meeting began with an introduction and greeting by Mr. Mungary followed by an overview of the planning effort by Team Leader Dennis Schramm. Then at their request, the tribes met for an hour and a half without the presence of the agencies. This was then followed by a three-hour discussion between the tribes and agencies which was focused on protection of cultural sites and access to these sites. The tribal representatives also addressed how they would want further consultation to be handled.

## **MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

As mandated by the California Desert Protection Act, an advisory commission for Mojave National Preserve was appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Interior. The commission was appointed in April 1996. The role of the commission is to advise the planning team through the planning process.

The commission held its first meeting in the preserve on June 12 and 13, 1996. On the first day, the commission visited Kelso Depot then discussed the status of the historic resources report being prepared by the NPS Denver Service Center. The next day included a discussion of administrative procedures for Advisory Commissions and the approved commission charter, an overview of the Federal Advisory Commission Act and a review of the planning objectives, status and issues.

The commission met again at the Hole-in-the-Wall Ranger Station on September 11 and 12, 1996. On the first day, speakers presented information on burros. This was followed by public input and discussion of alternatives by the commission. Day two involved a 4WD tour of 20 miles of the Mojave Road. During the tour, Dennis Casebier, a commission member, provided a history of the road through use of park radios. Afterwards, the commission visited Zzyzx and discussed management options.

On March 10 and 11, 1997, the commission met in Laughlin, NV. Mojave National Preserve Superintendent Mary Martin gave an update on the preserve's status and NEMO Team Leader Dennis Schramm gave an update on NEMO's status. Ross Haley, an NPS Wildlife Biologist, presented information on burro census which was then followed by a comment period. On the second day, Dennis Schramm explained the process of general management plan alternatives development. A Wilderness sub-group was also formed.

The commission met again July 19, 1997 at the Hole-in-the-Wall ranger station. This time the public was also invited. The main discussion issues were grazing, the desert tortoise, and gateway communities.

On October 9 and 10, 1997, the commission met at Nipton to discuss desert tortoise issues. Speakers included representatives from Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management California Desert District, as well as consultants and researchers.

On February 19, 1998, the planning team provided an overview of natural resources alternatives to the Commission. A follow up meeting was held on March 23, 1998 in Baker to finish the overview of the general management plan.

# **LIST OF INVITED COOPERATING AGENCIES**

## **FEDERAL:**

Bureau of Indian Affairs\*  
Ft. Irwin Army National Training Center\*  
China Lake Naval Weapons Center  
Army Corp of Engineers  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Inyo National Forest

## **STATE:**

California Department of Fish and Game  
California State Parks  
California Department of Transportation\*  
State Lands Commission  
California State Historic Preservation Office\*  
Nevada State Historic Preservation Office

## **LOCAL:**

San Bernardino County, CA\*  
Inyo County, CA\*  
Mono County, CA  
Clark County, NV\*  
Nye County, NV  
Esmeralda County, NV

## **NATIVE AMERICAN:**

Timbisha Shoshone Tribal Council\*  
Fort Mohave Tribal Council  
Chemehuevi Tribal Council

\*provided planning contact



**LIST OF AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO WHOM  
COPIES OF THE MOJAVE NATIONAL PRESERVE DRAFT  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT / GENERAL  
MANAGEMENT PLAN HAVE BEEN SENT**

***Federal Agencies***

Department of Agriculture

Natural Resource Conservation Service, Mojave District

Department of the Army

Corp of Engineers, Sacramento District

Corp of Engineers, Los Angeles District

Department of Defense

National Training Center, Ft. Irwin

Department of the Interior

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Sacramento

Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern California Agency, Riverside

Bureau of Land Management, Desert District, Riverside

Bureau of Land Management, State Office, Sacramento

Bureau of Land Management, Barstow Field Office

Bureau of Land Management, Needles Field Office

Bureau of Land Management, Ridgecrest Field Office

Bureau of Land Management, Las Vegas Field Office

Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Office, Ventura

National Park Service, Mojave National Preserve

National Park Service, Regional Office, San Francisco

National Park Service, Denver Service Center

National Park Service, Joshua Tree National Park

National Park Service, Lake Mead National Recreation Area

National Park Service, Death Valley National Park

National Park Service, Washington, D.C.

U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division, Colorado Plateau

U.S. Geological Survey, Canyon Crest Field Station

Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

***Federal Advisory Groups***

Mojave National Preserve Advisory Commission

***Elected Officials***

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, California  
U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, California  
U.S. Senator Richard Bryan, Nevada  
U.S. Senator Harry Reid, Nevada  
U.S. Representative Jerry Lewis, California  
U.S. Representative John Ensign, Nevada  
U.S. Representative Jim Gibbons, Nevada  
Governor Pete Wilson, California

### ***State Agencies***

California Department of Fish and Game  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
California Department of Transportation, District IX  
California State Historic Preservation Officer  
California State Lands Commission  
University of California, Riverside  
University of California, Berkeley  
California State University, Northridge  
California State University, Fullerton  
California State University, Humboldt  
Nevada Division of Minerals

### ***Local Agencies***

Baker Chamber of Commerce  
Baker Community Services District  
Supervisor Kathy Davis, San Bernardino County  
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power  
Clark County, Nevada, Department of Comprehensive Planning  
City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Engineering  
Big Pine Chamber of Commerce

### ***Organizations***

The Conservation Fund  
National Parks and Conservation Association  
The Wilderness Society  
Friends of the Mojave Road  
California Lichen Society  
California Association of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs  
California Off-Road Vehicle Association  
Eastern Sierra Audubon Society

Natural Resources Defense Council  
Hacienda de los Melagros  
High Desert Multi-Use Coalition  
People for the USA  
Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter  
Climbers Access Fund  
Animal Protection Institute  
Wild Burro Rescue  
Blue Ribbon Coalition  
Death Valley 49'ers  
Bureau of Land Management Lands Foundation  
Desert Survivors  
Desert Botanical Garden  
Restore: The North Woods

### ***Tribal Governments***

Chemehuevi Indian Tribe  
Fort Mojave Tribe  
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians  
Colorado River Tribe  
Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council

### ***Libraries***

California State University, Long Beach Main Library  
Balboa Library  
Angeles Mesa Library  
San Bernardino County Library, Administration  
San Bernardino County Library, Barstow Branch  
San Bernardino County Library, Needles Branch  
San Bernardino County Library, Victorville Branch  
Seattle Public Library  
Henderson Public Library  
Napa City County Library  
Shasta County Library  
Pasadena Public Library Pasadena Public Library  
San Francisco Public Library, Civic Center  
Sacramento Central Library  
Inyo County Free Library, Bishop Branch Library  
Ridgecrest Library  
UC Irvine, Main Library  
Inyo County Free Library, Lone Pine Branch Library  
Pahrump Library

Beatty Library

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, James R. Dickinson Library

Mohave County Library

Las Vegas Public Library

Sunrise Public Library

Boulder City Library

Calif. State Univ., Northridge, Oviatt Library

Clark County Library

Amargosa Public Library